

Message Text

SECRET

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43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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P 271540Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3998

INFO USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

CINCUSAFE PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

S E C R E T LONDON 11663

EXDIS - MILITARY ADDRESSEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

USCINCEUR PASS TO POLAD

E. O. 11652:XGDS1

TAGS: NATO, UK, MPOL

SUBJECT: F-111 BASING

REF: STATE 184331

1. AS INSTRUCTED, WE CALLED ON JOHN THOMSON, ASSISTANT UNDER SECRETARY IN THE FCO, AND ARTHUR HOCKADAY, DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY IN THE MOD JULY 27 AND CONVEYED INFORMATION PARAGRAPHS 1-3 REFTEL. WE STRESSED US DESIRE TO CONSULT FULLY WITH HMG AND INDICATED US WAS OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS BRITISH MAY HAVE REGARDING CONSULTATIONS WITH THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC AND OTHER ALLIES.

2. THOMSON SAID HMG WOULD IMMEDIATELY INITIATE STUDY OF MATTER WITH THE VIEW OF PROVIDING US WITH AN EARLY RESPONSE. HE CONTINUED THAT GIVEN IMPORTANCE OF PROJECTED DEPLOYMENT OF F-LLLS AT LAKENHEATH, HE WOULD NOT RESPOND "OFF THE TOP OF HIS HEAD." HE DID SAY, HOWEVER, THAT SUCH A DEPLOYMENT WOULD OBVIOUSLY HAVE
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SALT AND MBFR IMPLICATIONS.

3. HOCKADAY CONFINED HIMSELF TO STATEMENT THAT HMG
WOULD REVIEW US PROPOSAL CAREFULLY AND THAT PROCESS
WOULD TAKE AT LEAST TWO WEEKS.

4. BOTH THOMSON AND HOCKADAY PROMISED THAT THEY
WOULD BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH THE EMBASSY AS SOON AS
HMG HAS DEVELOPED FORMAL RESPONSE TO US PROPOSAL.

ARMSTRONG

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, TROOP DEPLOYMENT, AIR FORCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LONDON11663
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760289-0314
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760718/aaaaaptg.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 76 STATE 184331
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <28 JUL 2004 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: F-111 BASING
TAGS: MPOL, UK, US, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006